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8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
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11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against: Case No. ZOI5-106	
12	EDITH RENA GENTRY 4361 Club Vista Drive A C C U S A T I O N	
13	Palmdale, CA 93551	
14	Registered Nurse License No. 566543	
15	Respondent.	
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17	Complainant alleges:	
18	PARTIES	
19	1. Louise R. Bailey, M.Ed., RN (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her	
20	official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of	
21	Consumer Affairs.	
22	2. On or about May 1, 2000, the Board of Registered Nursing (Board) issued Registered	
23	Nurse License No. 566543 to Edith Rena Gentry (Respondent). The Registered Nurse License	
24	was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on	
25	October 31, 2015, unless renewed.	
26	JURISDICTION	
27	3. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following	
28	laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.	
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In the Matter of the Accusation Against: EDITH RENE GENTRY

STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 118, subdivision (b) provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued, or reinstated.
 - 5. Section 490 states, in pertinent part:
- "(a) In addition to any other action that a board is permitted to take against a licensee, a board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
- "(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a board may exercise any authority to discipline a licensee for conviction of a crime that is independent of the authority granted under subdivision (a) only if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the licensee's license was issued.
- "(c) A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action that a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code...."
- 6. Section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
 - 7. Section 2761 states, in pertinent part:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

"(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

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"(d)	Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the
violating o	f, or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter [the Nursing Practice
Act] or reg	ulations adopted pursuant to it.

- "(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof."
 - 8. Section 2762 states, in pertinent part:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

"(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license."

9. Section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.

COST RECOVERY

10. Section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS

At all relevant times, Respondent was employed as a registered nurse at Antelope Valley Hospital (AVH), in Lancaster, California. Respondent was trained on AVH's policies and procedures, including, but not limited to AVH Policy Number P.E. 2.34: Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace. On or about November 5, 2012, Respondent reported to work as a registered nurse in the Emergency and Critical Care Services Department at AVH. Respondent reports that she reported to work at approximately 18:15 on November 5, 2012. AVH staff reported that Respondent reported to work thirty (30) minutes late this date. Respondent reported that she cared for patients in beds 13, 14, and 15 in the "Red Zone" (color zones correspond to different levels of patient acuity). Staff reported to AVH House Supervisor M.F. 1 that Respondent's breath smelled of alcohol. AVH House Supervisor M.F. observed Respondent's behavior as "more bizarre than normal" and noted that her personality and behavior appeared more exaggerated. Registered nurse S.M. and House Supervisor M.F. met with Respondent to discuss their concerns. Respondent admitted to having consumed alcohol earlier in the day on November 5, 2012, but denied being intoxicated. Respondent was suspended by AVH pending further investigation and was offered transportation, which Respondent declined. Respondent provided a urine sample for alcohol/drug screening. Respondent's urine sample returned positive for alcohol (0.11 g/dl (%)). On or about November 20, 2012, Respondent resigned her Registered Nurse position at AVH in lieu of termination.

FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Conviction of a Substantially Related Crime)

12. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under sections 2761, subdivision (f), and 490, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, in that Respondent was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a registered nurse, as follows:

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¹ Initials will be used to protect individuals' privacy. Full names will be released upon a request for discovery.

- a. On or about August 15, 2012, after pleading nolo contendere, Respondent was convicted of one misdemeanor count of violating Vehicle Code section 23103 [wet reckless driving] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Edith Rena Gentry* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2012, No. 2NW01241.) The Court placed Respondent on 24 months probation, with terms and conditions, including completion of a 3-month licensed first-offender alcohol education program.
- b. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about April 4, 2012, Respondent was stopped by the California Highway Patrol after weaving in and out of her lane. While speaking to Respondent, the officer detected a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage emitting form within the interior of the vehicle. Respondent was observed to have red, watery eyes. Respondent admitted to having one glass of champagne. During the booking process, Respondent submitted to a breath test that resulted in a breath-alcohol content level of 0.11% on the first reading and 0.10% on the second.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Dangerous Use of Alcohol)

13. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (a), and section 2762, subdivision (b), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, in that on or about April 4, 2012 and on or about November 5, 2012, Respondent used alcohol to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself or others. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 11 through 12, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Unprofessional Conduct/ Violation of Nursing Practice Act)

14. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivisions (a) and / or (d), in that Respondent committed acts of unprofessional conduct and / or violated the Nursing Practice Act. Complainant refers to and by this reference incorporates, the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 11 through 12, inclusive, as though set forth fully.

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DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS

- 15. In order to determine the degree of discipline, if any to be imposed on Respondent, Complainant alleges, as follows:
- a. On or about April 4, 1986, Respondent was convicted of one felony count of violating Health and Safety Code section 11352 [sale of a controlled substance] in the criminal proceeding entitled *The People of the State of California v. Edith Rene Gentry* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 1986, No. A767429.) The Court sentenced Respondent to serve 90 days in Los Angeles County Jail and placed her on 26 months probation.
- b. The circumstances surrounding the conviction are that on or about May 31, 1985, Respondent sold rock cocaine to an undercover police officer.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License No. 566543, issued to Respondent Edith Rena Gentry;
- 2. Ordering Respondent Edith Rena Gentry to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to section 125.3; and
 - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: AUGUST 8, 7014

LOUISE R. BAILEY, M.ED., RN

Executive Officer

Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs

State of California Complainant

DOJ Matter ID: LA2013509289 61233878.doc